**Misuse of funds by Oil Companies**

MO. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) has pointed out glaring misuse of funds and irregularities in accounts by the Ministry and State-owned Oil Companies in the last ten financial years;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether action is proposed to be taken against those responsible for misuse of funds and irregularities?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI MURLI DEORA): (a) to (c) The Comptroller and Auditor General of India (CAG) conducts annual audit of all Ministries/Departments of the Government as well as of the Public Sector Undertakings. In its Reports pertaining to the last ten years, the CAG in his annual audit observations has pointed out certain instances of infructuous project expenditures, idling of assets, delays in recovery of dues, inadequate contract management, etc., by the State-owned Oil Companies. Action has been taken by the Ministry as well as by the State-owned Oil Companies to settle these audit observations in consultation with the CAG. Based on these audit observations, the State-owned Oil Companies also take up remedial and corrective measures to bring about improvement in the existing systems and procedures as well as action against erring personnel, wherever considered necessary.

**WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS**

*76. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA:
SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry is planning to come out with a five-year incentive package for airline opeators that link metros with regional centres;

(b) if so, whether he declared that incentives would be in the form of waiver of certain airport user, parking, route navigation and landing charges;

(c) whether the Ministry urged the States to identify airstrips that are not in use and develop them through public-private participation;